

Inventor: RAYBONE ET AL  
Serial No. 10/089,238  
Group Art Unit 1753  
Examiner: VerSteege

# REMARKS

The Office action of June 17, 2004 has been carefully considered and the application has been amended accordingly.

As indicated by the Examiner, the claims have been renumbered as claims 23-42. Renumbered claims 24, 26 and 39 are cancelled. Claims 23, 25, 27-38 and 40-42 are present for consideration.

Claims 29 and 42 have been amended so as to contain the proper Markush wording. Claim 23 has been amended, inter alia, to recite "at least one" bed thereby introducing agreement with claim 36 which recites "bed or beds of active material."

The typo in claim 38 has been corrected.

The claims have been amended so as to be clearly based on the application as filed. As requested by the Examiner, antecedent basis for certain claims is as follows:

Claim 23 is based on page 12 line 19 to page 13 line 2, pages 13 to 15, claim 14, page 6 lines 11 to 13, page 14 lines 26 to 31 and page 14 line 27.

Claim 24 deleted.

Claim 25 is based on page 15 lines 1 to 3

Claim 26 deleted.

Claim 27 is based on page 13 line 21.

Claim 33 is based on claims 11 and 12 as filed in the PCT, and page 15, lines 17-32.

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Claim 38 is based on page 12 line 19 to Page 13 line 2, page 13 to page 15, claim 14, page 6 line 11 to 13 and page 14 lines 26 to 31, and page 14 line 27.

Claim 39 deleted.

Claim 40 is based on page 13 line 19 to 20.

In view of the Examiner's objections regarding broad range/ narrow limitation, etc., the claims have been substantially amended to avoid such recitations. Thus amendments have been made to delete objected recitations in, inter alia, claims 23, 29, 30, 34, 37 and 38. It is submitted that, as amended, these claims and claims depending therefrom are free of objections.

A plurality of claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Palekar et al. As amended, parent claims 23 and 38, and claims depending therefrom, recite that the present invention is defined by a plasma in the presence of an active material and also includes a selective NO reduction catalyst comprising silver doped alumina to reduce NO in the gases to nitrogen.

The active material is selective for the reduction of carbonaceous particulates such as carbonaceous particles to carbon oxides. In addition silver doped alumina is particularly selective for reducing NO to nitrogen. Thus the present invention is effective at removing carbon and NO from gases.

The present invention is novel with respect to the disclosure of Palekar as Palekar does not disclose the use of a silver doped alumina catalyst. The present invention is also inventive with respect to Palekar as there is no suggestion in Palekar that would lead one skilled in the art to try a silver

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doped alumina catalyst for NO reduction.

Applicants respectfully submit that silver doped alumina is particularly selective for the reduction of NO and has been verified through substantial tests and experiments. It has been found that silver doped alumina shows a far greater selectivity for the reduction of NO than alumina (for example) and operates over a greater temperature range. This is not taught or suggested by the citation and applicants submit that this inventive feature could not be predicted from the disclosure of Palekar et al.

In a separate paper filed herewith, a required two month extension of time has ben requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application is requested and allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

November 17, 2004

Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile this day to Steven H. VerSteeg at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit 1753 fax No. 703-872-9308.

*Nov. 17, 2004 W.H. Holt*

Date

Signature